November

- **1 Fall Fun at Ferry Farm** George Washington's boyhood home celebrates the season with games, crafts and fun activities, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$ www.kenmore.org
- **4 to Jan. 29 Sound of Music** Live classic Broadway musicals experienced from your own private dining table. Nightly 6:30 dinner, 8 p.m. show time; Sunday matinees, dine at 1:30 p.m., show at 3 p.m. \$ www.riversidedt.com
- **5 Spotsylvania Fall Festival** A fun family event with crafters and children's activities, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Marshall Building, Spotsylvania Courthouse. Free.
- **12 and 13 Downtown Holiday Open House** Festive holiday decorations, music and refreshments for the kick off to the holiday season in Old Town Fredericksburg, known for its unique shops and friendly, personalized service. Free. www.historicfredericksburgvirginia.com/
- **12 Urban Trail Ride** Riders on their own horses tour Old Town Fredericksburg, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. \$ www.fredericksburgva.gov/PR
- **12 to 14 Market in the Square** Select vendors from the entire eastern seaboard come with a unique selection of food, fine gifts, clothing, furnishings and jewelry, at Fredericksburg Square. \$
- **18 to 20 Shakespeare Weekend** The works of the Bard are performed by the professional troupe, Shenandoah Shakespeare Company in Ann Carter Lee Ballroom, Mary Washington College. \$ www.fredfest.org
- **19 33**rd **Annual Craft Show** Craftspeople convene to show and sell their originally crafted handiwork, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the National Guard Armory. Free. www.fredericksburgva.gov/PR/index.htm
- **19 and 20 Fall Open House** Enjoy wines from Hartwood Winery and a guest winery. Tours, hors d'oeuvres and a complimentary glass, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$ www.hartwoodwinery.com
- 25 The Children's Christmas Tree Lighting The community gathers to sing carols with Santa Claus and light the City Christmas Tree, at the corner of Princess Anne and George Sts., 6 p.m. Free.

 www.historicfredericksburgvirginia.com/

December

- **2 Colonial Christmas Open House** The sights and sounds of a colonial Christmas at the Rising Sun Tavern, 6 to 9 p.m. Free.
- **2 POPS Concert** A selection of holiday and popular favorites, 7:30 p.m. at Dodd Auditorium, George Washington Hall, Mary Washington College. Free. www.umw.edu/musc

December

- **3 Deck the Halls 2005** Noted floral consultant Jan Williams demonstrates how to use native plants and evergreens to create extraordinary holiday decorations, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. \$
- **3 Celebrate the Holidays With the Monroes** President and Mrs. Monroe greet guests at the James Monroe Museum's open house with period music and light refreshments, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Free.
- **3 Spotsylvania County Holiday Parade** A variety of participants parade at Spotsylvania Courthouse, 2 to 4 p.m. Free.
- **3 Annual Christmas Parade** A downtown Fredericksburg holiday tradition with bands, marching units and floats, followed by Santa and Mrs. Claus, 6 p.m. Free.
- **4 Eighth Annual Model Train Display and Show** Operating layouts and displays of all types of trains, vendors, children's play trains and door prizes, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Select. \$



- 4 Christmas Open House Evening candlelight tours and refreshments at the Mary Washington House, the home George Washington bought for his mother, 4 to 7 p.m. Free.
- **5 Courthouse Christmas and Luminaria** A holiday concert provided by local church choirs and music groups on the Old Spotsylvania Courthouse Lawn, 4:30 p.m. Free.
- **7 Belmont Holiday Open House** The home of the artists Gari Melchers, decorated by the Lake Anna Garden Club and members of the Belmont staff, will open for free tours, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. www.garimelchers.org
- **10 to 30 Gingerbread Exhibit and Contest** A display and competition of decorative confections based on 18th century life at George Washington's Ferry Far, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily www.gwffoundation.org
- **10 and 11 35th Annual Candlelight Tour** A tour of holiday-decorated historic homes, entertainment, refreshments and detailed historical and architectural information, Saturday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to p.m. \$ www.hffi.org

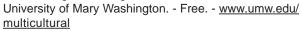
For the complete calendar listing, go to www.VisitFred.com

January

Continuing to 7 - "Goldilocks and the Christmas Bears"
Children's theater at the Riverside Dinner Theater,
Saturdays 1 p.m. lunch, 2 p.m. show. \$
www.riversidedt.com

Continuing to 19 - "The Sound of Music" Perhaps the world's most popular musical - at the Riverside Dinner Theater, nightly, 6:30 dinner, 8 p.m. show time, Sunday matinees. \$ www.riversidedt.com -

- **6 First Friday** A celebration of the arts in Old Town Fredericksburg with new exhibit openings in downtown galleries, times varying but within 6 to 9:30 p.m. Free.
- **14 to March 11 "Snoopy" -** Children's theater at the Riverside Dinner Theater, Saturdays 1 p.m. lunch, 2 p.m. show. \$ www.riversidedt.com
- 15 Hugh Mercer Birthday Party
 A celebration of the 278th birthday
 of this colonial patriot and
 physician with bagpipe music,
 special tours and refreshments,
 12 noon to 4 p.m. at the Hugh
 Mercer Apothecary Shop. Free.
 www.apva.org/apva/events.php
- 16 Cultural Awareness Series Jim Vance, WRC-TV News 4 anchor is the speaker - honoring the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 4 p.m. at Dodd Auditorium, George Washington Hall,



- 26 to March 3 Mid-Atlantic New Painting Competition open to artists in the Mid-Atlantic with works in any medium completed in the past two years at Ridderhof-Martin Gallery of the University of Mary Washington, regular gallery hours. Free. www.umw.edu/umw_galleries/
- **28 Annual Barrel Tasting** Taste 'wine before its time' as you sample wines aging in the barrels and compare with the finished wines in the bottles at Hartwood Winery, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$ www.hartwoodwinery.com

February

- **3 First Friday** A celebration of the arts in Old Town Fredericksburg with new exhibit openings in downtown galleries, times varying but within 6 to 9:30 p.m. Free.
- **4 to April 30 "Ragtime The Musical"** The colorful musical is performed at the Riverside Dinner Theater nightly, 6:30 dinner, 8 p.m. show time, Sunday matinees. \$ www.riversidedt.com

February continued...

- **10 The Sweet Side of Life** Music, dancing and decadent desserts provided by select Fredericksburg restaurants and caterers, 8 to 11:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Select. \$
- **16 to 26 "Forever Plaid"** Musical comedyat Klein Theater of the University Mary Washington. Shows at Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8 p.m., 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. \$ www.umw.edu/events
- **17 to 26 Senior Studio Art Major Exhibition** Senior studio art majors of the University of Mary Washington display their works, and offer some for sale, duPont Gallery, regular gallery hours. Free. www.umw.edu/events
- **18 George Washington's Birthday Celebration** Ferry Farm, Washington's boyhood home, celebrates our nation's first President's birth with colonial era activities, games, crafts and birthday cake, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$ www.kenmore.org/foundation/events.html
- **19 Black History Day** Exhibit and special events commemorating the black history of Spotsylvania County, Marshall Building at Spotsylvania Courthouse,10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.
- 20 President's Day Six historic homes and museums open for half price admission in honor of George Washington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See the Fredericksburg Area Museum, James Monroe Museum, Rising Sun Tavern, Belmont, Mary Washington House, and Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop in Washington's home town. \$ www.apva.org/apva/events.php
- **22 George Washington's Birthday** The Mary Washington House, which George bought for his mother, marks Washington's birthday with costumed tours and refreshments, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$ www.apva.org/apva/events.php
- **22 George Washington's Birthday** Washington's boyhood home at Ferry Farm and his sister's home, Kenmore, will celebrate with free admission for the day. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m www.kenmore.org
- **24 UMW Jazz Ensemble** A 7:30 p.m. concert at Dodd Auditorium, George Washington Hall, University of Mary Washington. Free. www.umw.edu/events
- **25 George Washington's Young Friends** First person interpreters will talk to visitors about life in the 18th century at Ferry Farm, the boyhood home of George Washington. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$ www.ferryfarm.org
- **25 Magnolia Ball** A gala event with dinner, dancing to the music of the Fredericksburg Big Band, and a silent and live auction, 6 pm at Augustine's at Fredericksburg Square. \$ www.hospicesupportcare.org
- **26 Music Mania** A children's event celebrating music with interactive, hands-on music activities, at Dorothy Hart Community Center. \$. www.fredericksburgva.gov/pr